REMARKS

A Replacement Sheet showing Figure 1 with the notation "Prior Art" is attached to this response. Please substitute this drawing for the original drawing sheet filed in the application. This amendment addresses the objection to the drawings set forth in the office action.

Claim 1 has been amended in response to the objection to eliminate the text "by said".

Claim 4 has been amended to depend from independent claim 1. This amendment addresses the rejection lodged under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 7-10, 19-21, 26-28, 31-33, 36-38, and 42 have been canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11-18, 22-25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 39, 40, and 43 have been amended. The application now includes claims 1, 2, 4-6, 11-18, 22-25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 39, 40, and 43.

Claims 1, 7-29, 31-33, 36-38, 40, 42, and 43 were rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent 5,915,001 to Uppaluru in view of U.S. Patent 5,717,740 to Penning. Claims 4-6 were rejected as being obvious over the Uppaluru/Penning combination further in view of U.S. Patent 6,654,722 to Aldous and U.S. Patent 6,636,596 to Gallant. Claims 30, 34, 35, and 39 were rejected as being obvious over Uppaluru in view of Aldous and Gallant. These rejections are traversed.

As explained on page 3, lines 18-24, of the application, the invention addresses the problem of enabling the service side to comprehend the relationship between a window downloaded to a client and voice data transmitted from the client in a framework for voice processing in which data is transmitted/received between the client, a voice processing service, and a Web server (information providing unit) through a packet network. Contrasting Figure 3 of the present application with Figure 1 of the application, the invention allows communications between the client and web

server 20 and the client and the voice processing server 30 using a packet network 40; as opposed to a combination of a packet network 15 and a circuit switched network 15, as is shown in Figure 1 of the application. As explained on page 9 of the application, with the claimed system and method, even if the voice processing service and the information providing service are accessed by a plurality of clients, the user can download proper information reflecting a voice processing result for display in a window.

With the cancellation of claims 7-10, 19-21, 26-28, 31-33, 36-38, and 42, and the amendments to independent claims 1, 30, 34, 35, 39, and 40, the claimed subject matter, which has been amended for the purposes of accelerating prosecution (and the applicant reserves the right to pursue claims of similar scope to the original claims or to claims which are supported by the patent specification and drawings in one or more continuing applications), has been limited to the processing identification information being a session ID which is generated each time a client requests service. Figure 3 of the application shows an example of an embodiment where session ID is generated by the Web server (information providing unit) 12. Figure 5 of the application shows an example of en embodiment where the session ID is generated by the voice processing server (voice processing unit) 30. With respect to Figure 3, page 12 explains that the on request for service from terminal 10, the web server 20 generates a session ID. This session ID is transmitted to the client (e.g., it may be contained in window information). Then, when transmitting voice information from the client 10 to the voice processing server 30, the client also provides the session ID it received from the web server (this can be performed simultaneously with the voice information or by separate transmission). After a voice processing result is obtained by the voice processing unit 30, the result is directed to the Web server 20 with the session ID. This allows the Web server to associate the voice processing result with the client 10, and permits the transmission or downloading of window (page) information to the client in response to the voice processing result. With respect to Figure 5, pages 15 and 16 explain a similar flow of information. That is, on request for service, the voice processing server 30 generates the session ID and transmits it to the client 10. The

client 10 then provides the session ID to the Web server 20. The voice processing server 30 performs voice processing on information received from the client 10 and provides the result to the Web server 20 together with the session ID. This allows the Web server 20 to associate the voice processing result with the client 10 in accordance with the session ID, and to transmit the result and to downlad window information corresponding to the result to the client 10.   As explained on pages 16 and 17 of the application, there are a variety of mechanisms for providing the session ID (e.g., embedding in tag information in a window, embedding in header information, embedding in voice information, containing the session ID in the voice processing result, etc.).

Figure 12 shows processing steps performed for a system like that shown in Figure 3. As can be seen in the process flow, the session ID is sent to the client from the web server after a request for service, and then the voice information and session ID are sent to the voice processing server. After processing, the processing result and session ID are sent to the web server. Then, the resultant information is sent to the client.

U.S. Patent 5,915,001 to Uppaluru shows the voice web gateway 105 connected to the telephone 111 through the PSTN 109, and the voice web site 102 connected to the voice web gateway 105, but not to the telephone. Assuming for the sake of argument, the voice web gateway 105 corresponds to a "voice processing unit" and the voice web site 102 corresponds to an "information providing unit", Uppaluru does not disclose the claimed arrangement which includes a voice processing unit connected to a terminal AND an information providing unit connected to the terminal where information can be provided from the information providing unit to the client without passing through the voice processing unit.

The office action notes that in Uppaluru the voice web gateway 105 generates a subscriber 107's account number as the processing identification information. However, this account number, which is pre-assigned to each subscriber 107 (see particularly, column 9, lines 60-61) is distinctly different from the processing identification information of the present invention (e.g., the session ID). As noted

above, the independent claims now specify that the voice processing unit generates, for each session, processing identification information corresponding to a series of processes performed by the voice processing unit and the information providing unit on the basis of the voice information. In sharp contrast, column 9, lines 60-61 of Uppaluru contemplates a pre-assigned account number on a calling card. Each of the individual subscribers in Uppaluru call the same toll free telephone number, and then supply their pre-assigned count number. There is no generation of processing identification information for each session, as is contemplated in the claimed invention.

This feature is also not shown or suggested in Penning. In fact, portions of Penning identified in the office action teach away from the invention as is now claimed. That is, rather than using a session ID for each session, Penning utilizes a system where unique account numbers are stored and used.

The references to Aldous and Gallant also lack this feature. Gallant is not directed to voice processing. Rather, Gallant describes a methodology for using an IP telephone proxy server to provide an IP interface between IP phones and legacy telephones. Aldous is directed to a VoIP speech system.

Statutory Subject Matter Rejection

Claims 1, 23, and 40 were rejected as being drawn to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is traversed. The rejection assumes that the processing identification information is not shared with the terminal. This is not correct. As explained in detail above, each of the terminal , the voice processing unit, and the voice processing unit share and use the processing identification information (e.g., session ID). Figure 12 of the application shows one embodiment where the session ID is generated by the Web server (information providing unit) and sent to the terminal, and the terminal then sends the session ID to the voice processing unit with the voice information. Then, after a processing result is obtained, the result is sent to the Web server with the session ID and then it is supplied to the client (terminal). Thus, it is simply incorrect to conclude that the processing identification information
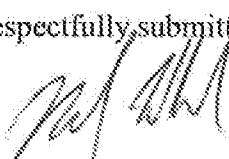
is being used only between the information providing unit and voice processing unit. The fact that it is shared by the terminal as well, is necessary for the embodiments shown in Figures 3, 5, and 12 to operate correctly.

In view of the above, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 11-18, 22-25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 39, 40, and 43 should now be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date is requested.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis, Christofferson & Cook, P.C.   Customer No.: **30743**
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400
Fax. (703) 787-7557